

A13 --As described hereinabove, according to the present invention, a remote-controlled operation of an external apparatus is possible by using a wireless communication means for transmitting image data in order to transmit operation data of the operating part of the body of the camera. Therefore, the electronic camera of the present invention can seamlessly (=smoothly) perform a connective operation with the external equipment, and the user can perform a variety of processes such as taking, deleting, and storing of an image, by operating the electronic camera by hand without touching the external apparatus.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Amended) An electronic camera, comprising:

a body;

a control part provided to the body, the control part being operated by a user; and

a wireless communication device which transmits image data,

wherein the wireless communication device further transmits operation information corresponding with operation of the control part to an external apparatus to remotely control the external apparatus.

2. (Amended) An external apparatus which is remotely controlled by an electronic camera, the external apparatus comprising:

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a wireless communication device which communicates with the electronic camera to receive image data and accessory information attached to the image data, the wireless communication device further receiving operation information corresponding with operation of a control part provided to the electronic camera, the control part being operated by a user;

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a processor configured to classify images received from the electronic camera into image groups according to the accessory information and create virtual folders, each of the virtual folders comprising each of the image groups; and

a displaying device which displays the virtual folders.

3. (Amended) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

a storing device that stores identification information for specifying the external apparatus;

a specifying device that specifies the external apparatus from the identification information stored in the storing device; and

an encoding device that encodes, according to the identification information, at least one of the image data and the operation information.

4. (Amended) An external apparatus which is remotely controlled by an electronic camera, the external apparatus comprising:

a wireless communication device which communicates with the electronic camera, including receiving image data and operation information corresponding with operation of a control part provided to the electronic camera, the control part being operated by a user,

at least one of the image data and the operation information being encoded according to identification information of the external apparatus; and

a decoding device that decodes, according to the identification information, the encoded data received from the electronic camera.

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5. (Amended) An electronic camera, comprising:

a body;

a taking lens;

an imaging device which converts a light which has entered the electronic camera through the taking lens into electric signals;

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a recording device which records an image captured by the imaging device in a storage medium;

a wireless communication device which transmits image data;

a control part provided to the body, the control part being operated by a user, operational directions over an external device being entered through the control part; and

an operation information outputting device which transmits, through the wireless communication device, operation information corresponding with operation of the control part to the external apparatus to remotely control the external apparatus.

6. (Amended) The external apparatus as set forth in claim 4, the external apparatus further comprising:

a displaying device which displays the image.

7. (Amended) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

a storing device that stores identification information for specifying the external apparatus;

a specifying device that specifies the external apparatus from the identification information stored in the storing device; and

an encoding device that encodes, according to the identification information, at least one of the image data and the operation information.

9. (Amended) A remote-control operation system for an external apparatus, the system comprising an electronic camera and the external apparatus, wherein:

an electronic camera comprises:

a body;

a taking lens;

an imaging device which converts a light which has entered the electronic camera through the taking lens into electric signals;

a recording device which records an image captured by the imaging device in a storage medium;

a first wireless communication device which transmits image data;

a control part provided to the body, the control part being operated by a user, operational directions over the external device being entered through the control part; and

an operation information outputting device which transmits operation information corresponding with operation of the control part to the external apparatus to remotely control the external apparatus, and

the external device comprises:

a second wireless communication device which communicates with the first wireless communication device; and

a processor configured to classify images received from the electronic camera into image groups according to accessory information attached to the images and display virtual folders, each of the virtual folders comprising each of the image groups,

wherein the external apparatus operates according to the operation information received from the electronic camera.

Please add the following new claims:

--10. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 1, wherein the control part comprises an operation key.

11. (New) A remote-control operation system for an external apparatus, the system comprising an electronic camera and the external apparatus, wherein:

an electronic camera comprises:

a body;

a taking lens;

an imaging device which converts a light which has entered the electronic camera through the taking lens into electric signals;

a recording device which records an image captured by the imaging device in a storage medium;

a first wireless communication device which transmits image data;

a control part provided to the body; operational directions over the external device being entered through the control part; and

an operation information outputting device which transmits operation information corresponding with operation of the control part to the external apparatus to remotely control the external apparatus, and

the external device comprises:

a memory having program instructions;

a second wireless communication device which communicates with the first wireless communication device; and

a processor responsive to the program instructions, configured to classify images received from the electronic camera into image groups according to accessory information attached to the images and displays virtual folders, each of the virtual folders comprising each of the image groups,

wherein the external apparatus operates according to the operation information received from the electronic camera.

12. (New) An electronic camera comprising:

a body;

a control part provided to the body; and

a wireless communication device which transmits image data and information relating to image data for storage on an external apparatus,

wherein the wireless communication device further transmits operation information corresponding with operation of the control part to the external apparatus to remotely control the external apparatus.

13. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 10, further comprising:

a storing device that stores identification information for specifying the external apparatus;

a specifying device that specifies the external apparatus from the identification information stored in the storing device; and

an encoding device that encodes the image data and the operation information according to the identification information.

14. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 10, wherein the transmission of image data and information relating to image data for storage on the external apparatus occurs when the electronic camera is within a predetermined distance of the external apparatus.

15. (New) An external apparatus remotely controlled by an electronic camera, the external apparatus comprising:

a memory having program instructions;

a wireless communication device for communicating with an electronic camera, including receiving and storing image data and information relating to the image data from the electronic camera;

a processor, responsive to the program instructions, configured to automatically classify images received from the electronic camera into image groups according to the information relating to the image data and create virtual folders for the groups classified, respectively; and

a display for displaying the virtual folders.

16. (New) The external apparatus as set forth in claim 13, wherein the wireless communication device receives image data and information relating to the image data when the electronic camera is within a predetermined distance of the external apparatus.

17. (New) An electronic camera comprising:

a body;

a taking lens;

an imaging device which converts a light which has entered the electronic camera through the taking lens into electric signals;

a recording device which records an image captured by the imaging device in a storage medium;

a wireless communication device which transmits image data;

a control part provided to the body, operational directions over an external device being entered through the control part; and

an operation information outputting device which further transmits, through the wireless communication device, operation information corresponding with operation of the control part to the external apparatus to remotely control the external apparatus.

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18. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 15, further comprising:

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a storing device that stores identification information for specifying the external apparatus;

a specifying device that specifies the external apparatus from the identification information stored in the storing device; and

an encoding device that encodes the image data and the operation information according to the identification information.

19. (New) The electronic camera as set forth in claim 15, wherein the transmission of image data and information relating to image data for storage on the external apparatus occurs when the electronic camera is within a predetermined distance of the external apparatus.--